2. The National Security Council has met on one occasion on 5th October, 1990. The Advisory Board, however, has not had a meetings so far.

3. Proposals and suggestions to restructure the National Security Council with a view to making it a more effective body for achieving the purposes for which it was constituted, are engaging the attention of Government.

[Translation]

Vocational Education Institute in U.P.

2423. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
DR. RAM KRISHANA KUSMARIA :
SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vocational education institutes operating in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of students registered in these institutions;

(c) the amount allotted by the Union Government under the vocationalisation of higher education during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to promote vocational education in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh has so far started 1865 vocational sections in 810 schools.

(b) As per information available, 43077 students were enrolled in these Institutes.

(c) No State-wise allotment of funds is made. However, based on the proposals received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, following funds were released to the State in the last three years under the above Scheme.

Year	(Amount in Lakhs)
1993-94	258.42
1994-95	265.39
1995-96	502.40
	1026.21

(d) To promote vocational education in the States including the State of Uttar Pradesh, the focus presently is on consolidation and qualitative improvement of the Vocational Education Programme. The States have been, interalia, advised to create Management structure at various levels, introduce need based courses and to establish appropriate linkages with the industry.

Private Ships

2424. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government and private ships separately at the various ports of the country at present;

(b) the reasons for making use of the private cargo ships;

(c) whether cargo transportation by Government ships has been reduced;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for reducing the number of private ships and to ensure a fare share of cargo transportation by Government ships?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Port-wise information is not being maintained. However, the number of ocean going vessels owned by Government/Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector as on 1.2.1997 is as under :

	Vessels	Gross Tonnage (in million)
Government/Public Sector Undertakings	196	3.40
Private	289	3.65
Total	485	7.05

(b) Number of vessels available with Government/ Private Sector is not sufficient to cater to the requirement of overseas trade of the country. Hence vessels other than Government have to be deployed for overseas trade.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Total cargo carried in terms of percentage have come down as the tonnage of Government/Public Sector Undertakings have not increased commensurate with the increase in the overseas trade.

(e) The Government policy is to give preference to India flag vessels in the carriage of Government cargo in preference to foreign flag vessels. There is no proposal to put any restriction in acquiring ships by private sector.

Laboratories in Polytechnics in U.P.

2425. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of laboratories of Government Polytechnics modernised with the assistance of World Bank in Uttar Pradesh;